(b) A workshop on Training for Senior Personnel in Rural Women's Development was held at Anand in October this year. There are several other workshops/seminars focussing on improving the condition of rural women which are scheduled to be held during 1988. The suggestions/recommendations emerging from these will be considered by the Technical Committee on Women in Development at its subsequent meetings.

Election Commissions in States

*293. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to set up Independent State Level Election Commissions in all the States as demanded by various State Governments:

(b) if so, the names of such States which have approached the Central Government for the purpose: and

(c) the decision taken by Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No State has approached the Union Government for setting up independent State level Election Commissions.

(c) Does not arise.

SAARC countries to have common television programme

*294. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: WSJ1 the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the SAARC countries have decided to have common Television programmes for transmission in the near future;

(b) whether any decision has been taken in the recent SAARC conference in Nepal in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the subjects on which the Television programmes are proposed to be telecast?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI-K. NATWAR SINGH); (a) to (c) At the Second SAARC Summit in Bangalore it was agreed in principle to launch a South Asian Broadcasting Programme. The idea was elaborated and made concrete at the meetings of the SAARC member countries held in New Delhi in February and September 1987, as a result of which the SAARC Audio Visual Exchange (SAVE), consisting of radio and television programmes contributed by member countries, was launched on the 2nd November, 1987.

The subjects on which the television programmes are proposed to be telecast include:

(i) information regarding developments in areas of common interest—social, economic and cultural;

(ii) experiments and progress in economic development;

(in) developments in science and technology;

(iv) tourism:

(v) common cultural heritage;

(vi) live telecasts/broadcasts of sports events, inauguration of SAARC Summits and major SAARC events;

(vii) any other areas mutually agreed upon.

Central investment in West Bengal

@*295. SHRI NIRMAL CHATTER-JEE: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the share of Central investment in West

@Previously Starred Question 155 transferred from 17th November, 1987.